**IN THE CLAIMS:** 

This following is a complete listing of the claims in the application and replaces

all prior versions and listings of the claims. Please amend the claims as follows.

1-75. **(Cancelled)**.

76. (Currently Amended) An umbrella apparatus comprising:

a pole portion;

an umbrella portion hingedly coupled to the pole portion, the umbrella portion

having a plurality of <u>radially extending</u> rib members;

a rechargeable electrical power system for providing electrical power to the

umbrella apparatus;

a solar energy system coupled to the pole portion, the solar energy system being

adapted to collect solar energy and convert the solar energy into electrical energy, the

solar energy system being conductively coupled to the rechargeable electrical power

system, such that the solar energy collected and converted into electrical energy

recharges the rechargeable electrical power system;

a lighting system having a plurality of light emitting diodes conductively coupled

to the rechargeable electrical power system, the light emitting diodes being recessed

within the rib members; and

translucent materials disposed over the light emitting diodes for enhancing the

light from the light emitting diodes.

77. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the translucent materials are smooth.

78. **(Previously Presented)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the translucent materials are textured.

79. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the translucent materials extend beyond the exterior surfaces of the rib members.

80. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, further

comprising:

conductors carried within the rib members for conductively coupling the light

emitting diodes to the rechargeable electrical power system.

81. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the solar energy system is releasably coupled to the rechargeable electrical power

system.

82. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, further

comprising:

a top cap for hingedly connecting the umbrella portion to the pole portion;

wherein the rechargeable electrical power system is releasably coupled to the

top cap.

83. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the solar energy system and the rechargeable electrical power system are disposed in

separate housings.

84. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 76, wherein

the rechargeable electrical power system comprises:

at least one rechargeable battery disposed in a housing that surrounds the pole

portion.

85. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 84, further

comprising:

a power system charger conductively coupled to the at least one rechargeable

battery;

Amendment Attorney Docket No. 0664MH-40982-C Serial No. 10/650,537 a detachable transformer for converting AC electrical power to DC electrical

power, the transformer being releasably coupled to the power system charger, thereby

allowing the power system charger to use AC power to recharge the at least one

rechargeable battery when the transformer is conductively coupled to the power system

charger.

86. (Currently Amended) An umbrella apparatus comprising:

a pole portion;

a top cap coupled to the pole portion;

a plurality of rib members hingedly coupled to the top cap;

a flexible canopy carried by the rib members;

at least one rechargeable battery for providing electrical power to the umbrella

apparatus, the at least one rechargeable battery being located below the flexible

canopy;

a solar energy system adapted to collect solar energy and convert the solar

energy into electrical energy, the solar energy system being conductively coupled to the

at least one rechargeable battery, such that the solar energy collected and converted

into electrical energy recharges the at least one rechargeable battery, the solar energy

system being releasably coupled to the top cap, such that the flexible canopy passes

between the top cap and the solar energy system, the flexible canopy being adjacent to

both the top cap and the solar energy system; and

a lighting system carried by the rib members, the lighting system having a

plurality of light emitting diodes conductively coupled to the at least one rechargeable

battery.

87. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 86, further

comprising:

wiring passing through an interior portion of the pole portion for conductively

coupling the light emitting diodes to the at least one rechargeable battery.

Amendment Attorney Docket No. 0664MH-40982-C Serial No. 10/650,537 88. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 86, wherein

the solar energy system is releasably coupled to the top cap via a threaded connection.

89. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 86, wherein

the light emitting diodes are located in recessed channels in the rib members.

90. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 86, further

comprising:

a wireless receiver and transmitter pair for generating a wireless command signal

for changing the operating state of the lighting system.

91. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 90,

wherein the wireless commend signal switches the lighting system on and off.

92. (Previously Presented) The umbrella apparatus according to claim 90,

wherein the wireless commend signal switches the lighting system between varying

levels of light output.